calendar months from the date of the decree, or within six such CHAP. 79. months after the said infant shall attain the age of twenty-one years, and likewise for any heir of the said infant, in case the said infant shall not so long live, within six months after the death of the said infant, or within six months after such heir shall attain such age, to shew cause wherefore the decree ought not to have been passed; and the bill to be filed by such infant or beir for shewing cause as aforesaid shall, as the case may require, either be filed against the original complainant or complainants, or any person or persons claiming or holding under him, her or them, and on such bill filed, the chancellor shall, at discretion, direct cither the usual proceedings by subpæna, or such notice as he shall think proper, according to the nature of the case, of the bill and of its substance and object, and of a day by him limited, not less than four months after notice, for the defendant or defendants to file an answer to such bill of revision; and if an answer be not accordingly filed, the chancellor may proceed to a reconsideration or revision of the decree before passed, or he may direct depositions, or other proofs, ex parte, to be received as evidence in addition to the former proceedings; and in case of the defendant's appearing to such bill of revision, additional evidence and proceedings may be had, and the chancellor shall pass such decree for or against the original complainant or complainants, or his, her or their representative or representatives aforesaid, or person or persons having the benefit of the original decree, as the established principles of equity shall to him appear, under all the circumstances of the case, to require.

5. And, whereas in certain cases, and particularly where a defendant hath been duly summoned, and has stood out of the process of the court, the chancellor is by law directed absolutely. to take the bill pro confesso, and in other cases of non-appearance of the defendant, he may at discretion either take the hill pro confesso, or direct a commission for taking depositions: And whereas it appears unreasonable that in any case whatever the chancellor should be directed absolutely to take the bill or bare allegations of a suitor pro confesso, BE IT ENACTED, That in all cases whatever, mil maybe taken where the chancellor is authorised to decree without the appear- proconfess, &c. ance of the defendant or defendants, it shall be at the discretion of the chancellor, either to take the bill pro confesso, or direct a commission for taking depositions ex parte, as by law is directed in

certain cases where the defendants are nonresidents.

6. And BE IT ENACTED. That hereafter, with the consent of the may issue to one party or parties in court, and with the approbation of the chancel- person, &c. lor, a commission for any purpose whatever, which may lawfully issue from the chancery court in any cause there depending, or hereafter to be instituted, may be directed to one person only, or to three persons, with power to any two, and the person or persons to whom it shall be directed shall have the same authority as has heretofore been reposed in any greater number.

7. AND BE IT ENACTED, That in all cases where land has es- in case of escheat hand, suit may be cheated, or shall escheat, to the state, or hath or shall become the brought, &c. property of the state, from the purchase thereof by an alien, or hath been confiscated as the property of a British subject, any person having any claim to the said land, or any part thereof, or hav-